

Remarks

By the foregoing Amendment, claims 3, 13, 15, 19, 29, 30, 39, 40, and 56 are amended, and new claims 58-60 are presented. No new matter is added by this Amendment. Entry of the Amendment, and favorable consideration thereof, is earnestly requested.

Two sheets of drawings are submitted to correct minor clerical errors.

The Examiner has noted a lack of antecedent basis in claims 3, 19, 29, 30, 39, 40, and 56. The Examiner has indicated that if these informalities were corrected, claims 28-57 would be allowable. Accordingly, claims 3, 19, 29, 30, 39, 40, and 56 are amended.

The Examiner has indicated that claims 13-17, if rewritten to incorporate the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims, would be allowable. Accordingly, claims 13 and 15 have been rewritten in independent form.

The Examiner has rejected independent claims 1, 2, and 18 under 35 U.S.C. §103 as obvious over Martin, U.S. Patent No. 6,132,300 in view of Normann, U.S. Patent No. 4,436,254. This rejection is respectfully traversed, as explained below. Additionally, new claims 58-60 have been presented.

Novelty

As the Examiner has indicated, Martin does not anticipate independent claims 1, 2, or 18 because Martin does not disclose all of the elements in any of those claims. Specifically, Martin does not anticipate claims 1 and 2 because, at the very least, the reference does not disclose a securing section having a plurality of bulges connected by lateral flanks. Similarly, Martin does not anticipate claim 18 because the reference does

not disclose, at the very least, a tool with a receiving opening comprising a plurality of bulges connected by lateral flanks.

Obviousness

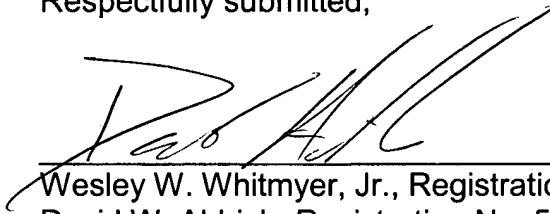
Additionally, Martin does not render dependent claims 1, 2, or 18 obvious in view of Normann, as there is no suggestion or motivation for one skilled in the art to combine these references. "In order to rely on reference as a basis for rejection of an applicant's invention, the reference must either be in the field of applicant's endeavor or, if not, then be reasonably pertinent to the particular problem with which the inventor is concerned." *In re Oetiker*, 977 F.2d 1443, 1446, 24 USPQ2d 1443, 1445 (Fed.Cir. 1992). "A reference is reasonably pertinent if, even though it may be in a different field from that of the inventor's endeavor, it is one which, because of the matter with which it deals, logically would have commended itself to an inventor's attention in considering his problem." *In re Clay*, 966 F.2d 656 659, 23 USPQ2d 1058, 1060-61 (Fed.Cir. 1992). In this case, the present invention relates to power tools, and in particular, a receptacle for securing a tool. One skilled in the art, seeking to solve the question of how best to secure the tool, would not reasonably be expected or motivated to look to spinning reels for fly-fishing (the Normann reference).

Regardless, even if these references were combined, one would still not arrive at claims 1, 2, or 18. As the Examiner has noted, Martin does not disclose the securing section of claims 1-2 or the receiving opening of claim 18. However, Normann also does not disclose these elements. Though the Examiner has cited item 56 in the Normann reference for this element, upon close examination, it is evident that device 56 is not a *securing* section for engaging an opening on a tool. Instead, 56 is a star wheel that screws down a crankshaft 46 to compress a spring-cup-washer 57, thereby adjusting the drag. (see Col.3, lines 4-12). Moreover, Normann does not disclose the receiving opening of claim 18, as no opening comprising a plurality of bulges is shown.

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Response to Official Action

It is respectfully submitted that claims 1-60, all of the claims remaining in the application, are in order for allowance, and early notice to that effect is respectfully requested.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Wesley W. Whitmyer, Jr.', is written over a horizontal line.

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